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CIRCULAR NO. 2.

To the Manufacturers of Soft Drinks and Flavoring Syrups:

The Food and Drug Department of the Louisiana State Board of Health takes this opportunity at the beginning of the bottling season to advise manufacturers regarding the Regulations for the manufacture of their goods and the sanitation of their factories.

Sanitary Code---Regulation 573.

For the Manufacture of Soft Drinks and Flavoring Extracts, and for the Sanitation of Soft Drink Factories, and Syrup and Extract Factories.

1. The room or portion of the room where syrup is made and mixed must be screened with at least 18-mesh wire screen.
2. The use of bottles containing metal stoppers that might be injurious to health or stoppers attached in such a way that the bottles can not be thoroughly cleaned, is forbidden.
3. Bottles must be thoroughly washed before using, with clean, pure, hot water, thoroughly drained, and kept mouth downward until ready for use.
4. Only pure, healthful water can be used for bottling.
5. Only clean materials, containing nothing deleterious to health, can be used in the manufacture of soft drinks and syrups.
6. Syrup jars for mixing syrups shall be covered and protected from dust, flies, and all other foreign matter, and the straining cloth shall be kept clean and fresh.

Section 1, 3, 5 and 6 are self-explanatory.

Regarding Section 3, bottlers are advised also to use soap, or a good cleansing powder.

Regarding Section 5, however, manufacturers are advised not to buy colors, flavors, etc., unless the manufacturer or jobber can furnish guarantees that the materials come within the State and United States Government Regulations.

(Section 4). Manufacturers are warned against using waters, either for bottling or washing purposes, from surface wells, unless they are known to be pure, or streams which are subject to contamination.

(Section 2,) We find that the bottlers are gradually getting rid of this type of bottle as they realize more and more its disadvantages from a sanitary standpoint, and as it becomes easier to get new supplies of crown bottles. Inquiry having been made, it has been found that some manufacturers will take orders for crown bottles all through the season for delivery within four to six weeks; other manufacturers will take orders up to April 1, for delivery within the same length of time. Thus it is possible to get crown bottles all during the season.

On February 16, a committee from the Louisiana Bottler's Association, in convention in New Orleans, appeared before this Department and asked that it allow the use of this forbidden style of bottle during the season of 1912. After careful consideration, this request was acted upon unfavorably. First—it would to a great extent undo the work already done in getting rid of this bottle. Secondly—it would be an injustice to those who have already been compelled to discard this bottle. However, it has been decided, in violations of Section 2 coming up before the Food and Drug Department for decision, to try each individual case on its own merits. For instance, where it was found that a strict enforcement of Section 2 would result in great hardship to the manufacturer, special leniency would be shown in these cases:

1. Inability to get a new supply of bottles.
2. When it is found that all the other regulations and sanitary requirements are obeyed and that this type of bottle is kept as clean as possible.
3. When it is found that the manufacturer has shown a reasonable desire to obey all requirements.

Manufacturers and dealers are advised in case they can not get bottles and fulfil this requirement, to submit proof of this at once to this Department, to be passed upon.

Food and Drug Regulation 37.—The use of saccharin in any food product is prohibited.

Soft drinks and flavoring syrups are regarded as misbranded when in case of artificiality in color and flavor, the statement is not made either on the cap or on the bottle.

Misbranding occurs when a manufacturer uses a bottle bearing another name than that of the real manufacturer. The promiscuous use of anybody's bottles is, therefore, prohibited.

Misbranding also occurs when a product has a distinctive name—example: Cola, and the name of the manufacturer and place of manufacture are not stated. The name and place of manufacture are not required unless the product bears a distinctive name. An old ruling bearing the statement that, if the case bears the words "artificial color and flavor," with the name and place of manufacture, the bottles need not be labeled, is not any longer in effect. Every bottle must bear the correct label.

These provisions go into effect immediately, and all manufacturers and dealers are hereby warned to put their place of business in condition to pass inspection by the Louisiana State Board of Health.

FOOD AND DRUG DEPARTMENT,
LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.



